



**The First Two Offerings
of our 2024 season**



Sonny Layland
Sunday, March 11, 2024
3:00 P.M.
Kawai Piano Gallery
Leawood, Kansas
PLUS
A Possible Encore Concert
Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church
Tuesday, March 12, 2024

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The return of Hodges & Dowling
“Our Dynamic Duo”
The Cusick House Concert
Sunday, June 2, 2024
3:00 P.M.

This Issue:
The 2024 KCR&B Concert Lineup
Charles Johnson Compositions
KCRR Beginnings
as remembered by Smiley Wallace

January 2024

Greetings Fellow Ragtimers!

Welcome to the premier issue of the new Kansas City Ragtime And Beyond Newsletter!

You will notice the above Volume Number 1 and Issue Number 1. Long time members will tell you this is NOT the first issue, and they are correct. We felt with the name change from Kansas City Ragtime Revelry to the new and more inclusive name of Kansas City Ragtime & Beyond that we should start a new group of newsletters. Plus this is the first time we can show off our new official logo. All the previous KCRR newsletters are still available at our web site for viewing anytime you wish.

With each issue, we hope to include information and details of all upcoming concerts for the season. Plus we shall always include a bit of ragtime history and any information regarding KCR&B. And this first issue focuses on the rags and songs of Kansas City’s own Charles Johnson (aka Raymond Birch). We have included a list of his compositions that are uniquely arranged by publishing houses and not in the usual chronological or alphabetical order.

The ‘new’ KCR&B newsletters are only going to be made available to members. If you have a friend or neighbor who is a ragtime devotee that would like to receive the newsletter, invite them to go to our web site and sign up as a member, or perhaps a renewing member.

If you know anyone who would like to be on our E-mail concert notification list, send them to our web site so they can shoot us a quick e-mail asking to be added.

Finally - we welcome any and all comments. This is a work in progress and we welcome your suggestions or contributions!

A Little Ragtime History for Jan. 2024

A list of compositions by Kansas City's own Charles L. Johnson organized by publisher:

J.W. Jenkins Co. - Kansas City, MO.

"Warwick Cub March Two-Step" (1898)
 "Belle of Havana Waltzes" (1899)
 "Doc Brown's Cake Walk: Kansas City Rag?" (1899)
 "Hester on Parade" (1899)
 "Scandalous Thompson" (1899)
 "A Whispered Thought: Novelette" (1904)
 "Sneaky Pete: Characteristic Two Step" (1907)
 "Sliver Star: Intermezzo" (1910)
 SONG - "Silver Star" (1911) Lyrics - Johnson?
 "Hen Cackle Rag: A Barnyard Disturbance" (1912)
 SONG - "Dreamy Rose" (1912) Lyrics - William Clay
 SONG - "Colorado & You" (1922)
 Lyrics - Carson Jay Robinson

Carl Hoffman Music - Kansas City, MO.

"With Fire & Sword: March * Two Step" (1901)
 "A Black Smoke" (1902)
 "The Blue Jay & the Squirrel" (1902)
 "Dill Pickles Rag" (1906)

Tobert R. Ingram Music Co. - Denver, CO.

SONG - That Little Sunny Southern Girl of Mine" (1907)
 Lyrics - J E. Jeter

Jerome Remick & Co. - New York, NY.

"Iola: Intermezzo Two Step" (1906)
 SONG - "Iola" (1906) Lyrics - James O'Dea
 "Tobacco: Rag Time Waltz" (1909)
 "SONG - "Dill Pickles Song" (1910)
 Lyrics - Alfred Bryan
 "Cum-Bac Rag" (1911)
 "Golden Hours" (1912)
 SONG - "Down By the Old Garden Gate" (1913)
 Lyrics - William Clay

Foster Music - Chicago, IL.

"Southern Beauties: March-Two Step" (1907)
 "Butterflies: Caprice" (1908)
 SONG - "With You" (1908) Lyrics - William Clay
 SONG - "I'll Meet you on the Golden Shore" (1911)
 Lyrics - William Clay
 SONG - "I'm Goin.' Goodbye. I'm Gone" (1912)
 Lyrics - Johnson?
 SONG - "Meet Me Where the Shadows Fall" (1912)
 SONG - "Lucinda's Ragtime Ball" (1913)
 SONG - "Ma Pic - - niny Babe" (1913)
 SONG - "Shadow-Time" (1913)
 Lyrics - James Royce Shannon
 "Peek-a-Boo Rag" (1914)
 "Dream on Waltzes" (1914)
 "Honeysuckle: Tango" (1914)
 "Pink Poodle: One Step" (1914)
 "Summer Breezes Waltzes" (1914)
 SONG - "In the Hills of Old Kentucky" (1914)
 SONG - "When the War is Over" (1915)
 Lyrics - Robert Spence
 "Teasing the Cat" (1916)

Foster Music - Chicago, IL. - cont.

SONG - "Croon Time" (1916)
 Lyrics - James Royce Shannon
 "Fun on the Levee: Cake Walk" (1917)
 "Crazy Bone Rag" (1818)
 "Snookers Rag" (1918)
 "Starlight Serenade" (1818)
 "Sweet Memories Waltz" (1918)
 SONG - "Rose of Tennessee" (1918)
 Lyrics 0 Frank Watkins
 SONG - "Sweet & Low" (1919)
 Lyrics - James Stanley Royce
 SONG - "Where the Lanterns Glow" (1919)
 Lyrics - James Stanley Royce
 SONG - "By the Silvery Nile" (1921)
 Lyrics by Jack Yellen

Arnett - Delonais Co. - Chicago IL.

"Fine & Daddy: Two Step" (1908)

Harold Rossiter Music Company - Kansas City, MO.

"Fairy Kisses Waltz" (1908)
 "The Harvest Hop" (1908)
 "Lady slippers (Two Step Rag)" (1910)
 as Raymond Birch

Walter Jacobs Pub. - Boston, MA.

"Dixie Twilight: Characteristic March" (1909)

Keith Music Co. - Louisville, KY.

"Kissing Bug Rag" (1909)

Whitmark & Sons Pub. - New York, NY.

"Porcupine Rag" (1909)

American Music Publishing Co. - Chicago, IL.

"Pansy Blossoms Rag" (1909)

Will Rossiter Pub. - Chicago, IL.

"Pigeon Wing Rag" (1909)

Thompson Music Co. - Chicago, IL.

"Silver King Rag" (1909)

Sam Fox Publishing - Cleveland, OH

"Heart fancies: Waltzes" (1910)
 "School Life: March & Two Step" (1908)
 "Swanee Rag" (1912)
 SONG - "Your'e the Girl That I've Been Longing for" (1913)
 Lyrics - James Stanley Royce

Charles L Johnson - Kansas City, MO.

"Lovey Dovey March & Two Step" (1907)
 "Powder Rag" (1907) as Raymond Birch
 "All the Money: March & Two step" (1908)
 "Beedle - Um - Bo: A slow Drag" (1908)
 "Fawn Eyes: Intermezzo & Two Step" (1908)
 SONG - "Why Can't I Make a Hit" (1909)
 "Sunbeam: Intermezzo" (1909)
 "Wedding of the Fairies Waltz" (1909)
 SONG - "IF I Only hand a Sweetheart" (1909)
 Lyrics - Robert Spencer
 "The Blushing Rose Serenade" (1910)
 "Under the southern Moon Two-Step" (1910)
 SONG - "Little Star Won't You Twinkle" (1910)
 Lyrics - Tell Taylor

Charles L Johnson - Kansas City, MO. - cont.

- SONG - "When I Dream of You" (1911)
Lyrics - William Clay
- SONG - "When You & I were Sweethearts Long Ago" (1912)
Lyrics - George McCrary
- SONG - "Dream Days" (1913)
- SONG - "When the Roses Fade Away" (1913)
Lyrics - Martha Thomas
- "Yankee Bird: March & Two Step" (1919)
- "Cloud Kisser Rag - Two Step (1911)
as Raymond Birch
- "Melody Rag" (1911) as Raymond Birch
- "Queen of Fashion Waltzes" (1911)
as Raymond Birch
- "Tar Babies Rag" (1911)
- SONG - "The Girl for Me" (1911)
Lyrics - William R. Clay
- SONG - "Only a Faded Rosebud" (1912)
Lyrics - William Clay
- SONG - "I Never Thought I'd Miss you So" (1917)
Lyrics - Robert Spencer
- SONG - "Beautiful Island of Dreams" (1918)
Lyrics - Milton Harsha
- SONG - "When Clouds Have Vanished" (1912)
Lyrics - F. Restor & William Clay
- SONG - "The Sweetheart Trail" (1925)
Lyrics - Al Neal

Vabdersloot Music Publishing Co. - Williamsport, PA.

- "Golden Spider Rag"
'Barber Pole Rag" (1911)

Ted Snyder Music - New York, NY.

- SONG - "When You Dream of the Girl you Love" (1914)

FJA Foster Pub. - Chicago, IL.

- "Alabama Slide" (1915)
"Blue Goose Rag" (1916) as Raymond Birch
"Monkey - Bizniz: Novelty for Piano" (1928)

Ted Browning Music Co. - Chicago, IL.

- SONG - "Deep in My Heart, Beloved" (1920)
Lyrics - Addison Maderia

Dan Ashba - Kansas City, MO.

- SONG - "Wanda: Fox Trot" (1922)



Kansas City Ragtime & Beyond is very excited to announce the return of our favorite Boogie Woogie pianist, Sonny Leyland. His infectious style is not limited to just Boogie Woogie. His repertoire runs from the ragtime era to the mid-1950s. And his concerts are full of renditions of both old and new tunes plus some of his own original works. His pianist display never disappoints. For those who have attended his KCR&B concerts before, they will remember his piano playing is spontaneous and full of surprises for his audiences.

From His Web Site:

"Carl Sonny Leyland was born & raised on the South Coast of England, growing up close to the city of Southampton. As a child he was drawn to the American music which he heard on LP records. At age 15 Leyland discovered boogie woogie. Captivated by the sound of the repeating 8 to the bar left hand pattern, Leyland was inspired to go to the piano & begin on a path that would become his life's purpose. Within 3 months he would be performing in public. Initially influenced by boogie woogie greats he became an authority on early & obscure styles. In 1988 Leyland had the opportunity to come to the USA. He relocated to New Orleans where he would spend the next nine years. During that time he was active on the club scene, quickly gaining a reputation for his authentic blues & early rock & roll stylings. In 1997, feeling the need for a change, Leyland relocated to Southern California and toured with Big Sandy & His Flyrite Boys for over three years.

By this time his repertoire had expanded to include ragtime & early jazz styles which enabled him to become part of the traditional jazz scene around Los Angeles & San Diego. In June of 2003 the Carl Sonny Leyland Trio was formed with drummer Hal Smith & bassist Marty Eggers. They have recorded seven CDs to date. He is still active in the blues world. He has also continued his involvement with the rockabilly scene & plays each year in the backing band at Viva Las Vegas & more recently at the Summer Jamboree in Senegalia, Italy."

Don't miss this opportunity to hear him live in March 10th!



Don't forget the Hodges & Dowling
Cusick House Concert
Sunday June 2, 2024

2023 KCR&B Past Events

Sunday, April 23, 2023



Sunday June 4, 2023



Friday, November 10, 2023

**"Ragtime Dead?
Heck, it ain't even sick!"
...Ragtime Bob Darch**

The Beginnings of Kansas City Ragtime Revelry ...as told by Smiley Wallace (May 14, 2022)

"It all started in the early 1950s when Helen and Smiley Wallace were dating in Joplin. We knew of Percy Wenrich and his music: "Old Gray Bonnet," "Silver Bells," "Moonlight Bay," "When You Wore a Tulip," etc. We also listened to the New Orleans jazz on station WWL every Sunday night, when we heard early jazz and some ragtime.

Then in 1958 Bob Darch and family came to the Glass Hat Saloon for a two month gig. Bob and Peggy Darch became very good friends. We took them around to historic sites in the Joplin area. We met Steve Spracklen, eight or nine. Bob immediately started him playing ragtime and giving him instruction and music from his west coast collection. Then Al Stricklin and Trebor Tichenor drove over from St Louis on weekends to sit in at the Glass Hat. They all played music of Scott Joplin, Clarence Wood, Arthur Marshall and other locals. They also played the music of James Scott, from Neosho and Carthage. Helen and Smiley took a liking to James Scott's music and felt he was as important to ragtime as Scott Joplin.

When Helen and Smiley moved to Overland Park, Kansas in 1965, we discovered that James Scott was buried in an unmarked grave at 38th & State in Kansas City, Kansas. But we were reading a copy of They All Played Ragtime by Blesh & Janis and it gave a location of his grave. About that time we met Kevin Sanders and Dennis Pash of the old Etcetera String Band. These two young men were fine musicians, and walking encyclopedias on ragtime plus its composers, musicians, publishers and locations of publishing houses, mostly in Missouri and some in Kansas.

The boys in the band had been searching for James Scott's grave with no success! So using the directions in the book, and an old map available and a few years of searching, we found the site where he and his wife were buried. The cemetery was littered with trash and garbage for many years, but the city began cleaning through the efforts of Helen and Smiley Wallace. A fundraiser paid for a beautiful granite marker which is easy to find, plus the grave yard is cleaned up and well taken care of! Later we marked the graves of Arthur Marshall and J. W. 'Blind Boone' in Warrensburg, Mo.

Bob Darch, at this time, was teaching the residents of Sedalia, Mo. the importance of their city in the development of ragtime. We in this group felt that Kansas City, a hot bed of early jazz, were not aware of its importance in the development of ragtime composers and musicians. So we started forming a group that played ragtime, both piano and string band music and maybe small combos!

After much ado, we decided to call it Kansas City Ragtime Revelry. We have never drawn huge crowds, but we felt that we have done what we set out to do, to make people in this area aware of ragtime, that preceded jazz in Kansas City and its surroundings.

David 'Smiley' Wallace has been able to bring musicians into the schools where he has taught for over fifty years!"